

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

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For Immediate Release

**LEADER AND ORGANIZER OF INTERNATIONAL METH
LAB SUPPLY RING PLEADS GUILTY**

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - October 11, 2005

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Jose Carrillo-Carrillo pled guilty today in federal district court in San Diego before United States District Court Judge Barry T. Moskowitz, to two indictments (04CR2889BTM and 04CR2890BTM). In the first indictment (04CR2899BTM), Carrillo pled guilty to conspiracy to aid and abet the manufacturing of methamphetamine and conspiracy to distribute and possess listed chemicals, such as iodine and hypophosphorous acid, knowing and having reasonable cause to believe that the listed chemicals would be used to manufacture methamphetamine in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846, 841(a)(1), and 841(c)(2) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2. In the second indictment (04CR2890BTM), Carrillo pled guilty to conspiracy to import from Mexico into the United States approximately 17.81 pounds of methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960 and 963.

In connection with his guilty plea to the first indictment, Carrillo admitted that he was the leader and organizer of an organization that smuggled, transported, and distributed precursor chemicals used in the manufacturing of methamphetamine, such as iodine and hypophosphorous acid, from Mexico through the Southern California Ports of Entry for distribution to methamphetamine lab operators throughout California, Oregon, and Washington. As part of the conspiracy, Carrillo admitted that he arranged with the source of supply in Mexico to smuggle listed chemicals into the United States and coordinated directly with the methamphetamine lab operators. The defendant knew that iodine and hypophosphorous acid were key chemicals used to manufacture methamphetamine and admitted that he aided and abetted in the manufacturing of methamphetamine. As part of his plea, Carrillo admitted to smuggling over one thousand pounds of iodine and hundreds of gallons of hypophosphorous acid, aiding in the manufacturing of hundreds of pounds of methamphetamine.

During the course of the wiretap investigation, the United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Section (ICE), with assistance from the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Los Angeles Police Department, California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, and other local agencies, seized over 1,000 pounds of iodine and gallons of hypophosphorous acid.

As to the second indictment, Carrillo admitted that he conspired with others to import approximately 17.81 pounds of methamphetamine through the Southern California Ports of Entry from Mexico. He possessed the methamphetamine at his residence, which was seized following the execution of a search warrant by federal authorities on October 27, 2004.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Sherri Walker Hobson, who prosecuted the case, Jose Carrillo-Carrillo faces a minimum mandatory of 10 years in custody with a maximum sentence of life in prison. Sentencing is set for January 20, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Moskowitz.

DEFENDANT

Jose Carrillo-Carrillo

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Indictment #1: 04 CR 2889-BTM – One Count

Conspiracy to aid and abet the manufacturing of methamphetamine, to distribute and possess listed chemicals, knowing and having reasonable cause to believe that the chemicals would be used to manufacture a controlled substance; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 846, 841 and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2. Minimum mandatory: 10 years in custody; Maximum Penalty: Life in custody, up to \$1,000,000 fine, at least five years of supervised release.

Indictment #2: 04 CR 2890-BTM – One Count

Conspiracy to import methamphetamine; in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952, 960, and 963. Minimum mandatory: 10 years in custody; Maximum Penalty: Life in custody, up to \$1,000,000 fine, at least five years of supervised release.

AGENCIES

Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
Customs and Border Protection (BCP)
California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement (BNE)
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
San Diego Sheriff's Office
Los Angeles Police Department
Costa Mesa Police Department
Anaheim Police Department
Ontario Police Department
Torrance Police Department